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Betty J. Borger  
(signature)

Date of signature and deposit - 10-15-03

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
ECKART OP DEN CAMP ) Group Art Unit  
 )  
Serial No. )  
 ) Examiner  
Filed: Herewith )  
 )  
For: A PIPE CONNECTION AND A )  
METHOD FOR ITS MANUFACTURE ) Attorney Docket 1-24802

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as indicated on the following pages.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Scott A. Blake  
Reg. No. 40,515

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